Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing Of Claims

1. - 2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 22, further comprising:

receiving video data from the multimedia source device;

~~packetizing the video data to form a packetized video data stream formed of a number of video data packets;~~

~~passing the video data packets by way of the unidirectional main link from the multimedia source device to the multimedia sink device;~~

depacketizing the video data packets at the multimedia sink device; and

generating a displayable image based upon the depacketized video data.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, further comprising:

encoding video data from the multimedia source device from an 8-bit format to a 10-bit format;

transmitting the encoded video data from the multimedia source device to the multimedia sink device;

converting the encoded video data from the 10-bit format to the 8-bit format at the multimedia sink device and

providing the data to the multimedia sink device in the 8-bit format.

5.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, wherein the unidirectional main link has an associated main link data rate and wherein the auxiliary link has an auxiliary link data rate.

6.   (Original) The method as recited in claim 5, wherein the source video data is pixel data provided at a native clock rate, wherein the pixel data is transmitted at the link data rate that is different than the native clock rate.

7.   (Original) The method as recited in claim 6, wherein the main link data is encoded using 8B/10B encoding and wherein the auxiliary link data is encoded using Manchester II encoding.

8. – 20. (Cancelled)

21.   (Currently Amended) A **packet based** method of coupling a multimedia source device to a multimedia sink device, the method comprising:

    providing a coupling device including a signal cable ~~that does not include a clock line~~ comprising (i) a bi-directional auxiliary channel arranged to transfer information between the multimedia source device and the multimedia sink device and (ii) a unidirectional main link arranged to transport multimedia data packets from the multimedia source device to the multimedia sink device, the signal cable not including a clock line;

    coupling the multimedia sink device to the multimedia source device by way of the coupling device ~~signal cable~~; and

        automatically configuring the coupling device, including

            determining if the multimedia source device supports only analog data;

            setting an operational mode of the coupling device to analog if the multimedia source device supports only analog data;

determining if the multimedia sink device supports only analog data;

setting the operational mode of the coupling device to analog if the multimedia source device supports only analog data;

setting the operational mode of the coupling device to digital if both of the multimedia source device and the multimedia sink device support digital data;

packetizing only the video data to form a packetized video data stream formed of a number of video data packets; and

passing the video data packets by way of the unidirectional main link from the multimedia source device to the multimedia sink device, and wherein control signals are passed over only the auxiliary channel such that substantially all unidirectional main link bandwidth is used for transmission of video data only.

~~using an enhanced analog mode having differential analog video with embedded alignment signal and bi-directional sideband when either one or both the multimedia source device or the multimedia sink device are determined to be analog in nature~~

22. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 21, further comprising:

using multimedia sink device identification data and multimedia source device identification data retrieved from the multimedia sink device and the multimedia source device, respectively, by way of the bi-directional auxiliary channel to determine the analog nature of the multimedia sink device and the multimedia source device.

23. (New) A method as recited in claim 21, further comprising:

using an enhanced analog mode having differential analog video with embedded alignment signal and bi-directional sideband when either one or both the multimedia source device or the multimedia sink device are determined to be analog in nature.

24. (New) A packet based configurable coupling device for connecting a multimedia source device and a multimedia sink device, the configurable coupling device comprising:

a first interface for the multimedia source device comprising:

a receiver unit for receiving video data from the video source. and

a packetizer for packetizing only the video data to form a packetized video data stream formed of a number of video data packets;

a second interface for the multimedia sink device;

a signal cable for connecting the first interface to the second interface, the signal cable including (i) a bi-directional auxiliary channel arranged to transfer information between the multimedia source device and the multimedia sink device, and (ii) a unidirectional main link arranged to transport multimedia data packets from the multimedia source device to the multimedia sink device;

a processor configured to determine if the multimedia source device supports only analog data, and to determine if the multimedia sink device supports only analog data; and

at least one switch for setting an operational mode of the configurable coupling device to analog if the multimedia source device supports only analog data, setting the operational mode of the configurable coupling device to analog if the multimedia source device supports only analog data, and setting the operational mode of the configurable coupling device to digital if both of the multimedia source device and the multimedia sink device support digital data, in accordance with the determination of the processor, wherein the video data packets are passed by way of the unidirectional main link from the multimedia source device to the multimedia sink device, and wherein control signals are passed over only the auxiliary channel such that substantially all unidirectional main link bandwidth is used for transmission of video data only.

25.   (New) A configurable coupling device as recited in claim 24, wherein the configurable

coupling device operates in the digital mode as a doubly terminated twisted pair type connector

having a main channel and an auxiliary channel providing a plurality of communication channels.

26.   (New) A configurable coupling device as recited in claim 25,

        wherein the multimedia source device and the multimedia sink device include a video

source and a video display, respectively, and wherein the second interface comprises:

        a depacketizer for depacketizing the video data packets at the video display; and

        an image generator for generating a displayable image based upon the

depacketized video data.

27.   (New) A configurable coupling device as recited in claim 24, wherein the processor

determines the analog nature of the multimedia sink device and the multimedia source device

using multimedia sink device identification data and multimedia source device identification data

retrieved from the multimedia sink device and the multimedia source device, respectively, by

way of the bi-directional auxiliary channel.